

Message Text

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63

ACTION SCCT-01

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

SY-05 USSS-00 SCA-01 USIE-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

/054 W

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O 280328Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2176

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CARACAS 2340

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEC VE

SUBJECT: NIEHOUS KIDNAPPING

1. FOLLOWING ARE DETAILS AS WE HAVE THEM AS OF 2250 LOCAL TIME:

A. VICTIM IS WILLIAM F. MIEHOUS, MANAGING DIRECTOR AND VICE PRESIDENT OWENS-ILLINOIS' VENEZUELAN GROUP.

B. AT APPROXIMATELY 2015 LOCAL TIME TWO MEN IN MILITARY UNIFORMS OF CAMOUFLAGE TYPE APPEARED AT THE DOOR OF THE NIEHOUS HOME. THEY TALKED THEIR WAY INTO THE HOUSE AND WERE FOLLOWED BY FIVE MEN IN CIVILIAN CLOTHES WHOSE HEADS WERE COVERED BY STOCKING MASKS. MRS. NIEHOUS AND THE MAID WERE TAPED UP, MR. NIEHOUS WAS OVERPOWERED AND INJECTED WITH A "BLUE LIQUID." THE KIDNAPPERS DEMANDED AND OBTAINED THE PASSPORTS OF THE FAMILY MEMBERS (THE COUPLE AND THEIR THREE CHILDREN) AND THEIR VENEZUELAN IDENTITY CARDS. THEY ALSO DEMANDED THE KEYS TO THE NIEHOUS CAR BUT SUBSEQUENTLY DID NOT TAKE THEM. MRS. NIEHOUS AND THE MAID WERE UNABLE TO IDENTIFY THE CAR IN WHICH THEY DID DEPART.

C. THERE HAS SO FAR BEEN NO RANSOM DEMAND. HOWEVER, ON DEPARTING THE KIDNAPPERS TOLD MRS. NIEHOUS "IF YOU WANT TO SEE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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YOUR HUSBAND, GO TO THE LAS BRISAS BUILDING IN COLINAS DE

CHAGUARAMOS." THIS IS THE HEADQUARTERS OF DISIP, THE VENEZUELAN
PLAINCLOTHES INVESTIGATIVE POLICE.

D. POST SECURITY OFFICER IS ON THE SCENE AND IN CONTACT WITH
THE LOCAL POLICE. THE MINISTER OF INTERIOR CALLED THE AMBASSADOR
ABOUT 2225 TO SAY THAT THE INVESTIGATION IS BEING PURSUED
WITH ALL VIGOR AND A GENERAL ALARM HAS BEEN BROADCAST. WE HAVE
NO INDICATION AS YET OF WHAT ATTITUDE THE GOV MIGHT TAKE IN THE
EVENT OF A RANSOM DEMAND.

E. THE LOCAL TASK FORCE AND COMMAND POST HAS BEEN
ESTABLISHED, ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE FOR PERMANENT LIAISON
WITH THE POLICE AND THE MINISTER OF INTERIOR, TAPE RECORDING EQUIP-
MENT IS NOW IN PLACE AT THE EMBASSY AND THE NIEHOUS RESIDENCE,
THE POST SECURITY OFFICER IS IN CONTACT WITH THE FAMILY, AND
ADDITIONAL SECURITY MEASURES HAVE BEEN TAKEN AT THE EMBASSY.

F. PRESS INQUIRIES ARE BEING REFERRED TO THE
MINISTER OF INFORMATION.
SHLAUDEMAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: KIDNAPPING, BUSINESSMEN, TERRORISTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976CARACA02340
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760075-0832
From: CARACAS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
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EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
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Review Transfer Date:
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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NIEHOUS KIDNAPPING
TAGS: ASEC, CASC, PINS, VE, US, (NIEHOUS, WILLIAM F)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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